
ST THOMAS' CATHOLIC CHURCH

Location

McLennan Street GLENTHOMPSON, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

St. Thomas's Catholic Church is located in McLennan Street, about one kilometre south of the centre of the township of Glenthompson. The Church is a simple, traditional if not old-fashioned example of the Gothic revival style, constructed of red brick, presumably from the Glenthompson Brickworks. The roof is covered with corrugated iron. The church has a nave of three bays and a vestry at the rear, and a modern porch has been added at the front. The church was opened in 1904, on land donated by Mr. John Brady. The architect and builder of the church are unknown at this stage. The church is in excellent condition with a high degree of integrity.

How is it Significant?

St Andrew's Uniting (former Presbyterian) Church is of architectural, historical and social significance to the township of Glenthompson and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

St Thomas' Catholic Church is of social significance to the township of Glenthompson as the focus for the late movement of the Catholic population who settled the area in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. Historically, it is significant for its association with the Brady and Fitzgerald families, who were instrumental in having the Catholic Church built and for demonstrating the strong Catholic faith in the Shire. Architecturally, it demonstrates a style of building which is typical of Catholic churches in the twentieth centuries.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1904,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23390
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The church is in excellent condition.

Physical Description 1

The church is a simple, traditional if not old-fashioned example of the Gothic revival style. The walls are red brick, presumably from the Glenthompson Brickworks, and are strengthened by conventional buttresses on the side elevations and piers on the facade. The roof is pitched at 60 degrees and is covered with corrugated iron. There are three ventilators just below the ridge line on each face. The church has a nave of three bays and a vestry at the rear. Behind the church, there is a large modern rainwater tank. There is a side entrance on the south elevation. A modern porch has been added at the front repeating the style, materials, and roof pitch of the church. The roof of the porch encroaches slightly on the circular ventilator in the main gable which is detailed as a quatrefoil. The church is set within a modern garden. There are toilets to the south-west. [The interior has not been inspected.]

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life
8.6 Worshipping
8.6.1 Worshipping together
8.6.3 Founding Australian religious institutions
8.6.4 Making places for worship

Usage/Former Usage

Church

Integrity

High degree of integrity

Physical Description 2

Mr. George Thacker Junior, first owner of the land
Mr. John Brady, second owner of the land, and benefactor of the land on which the church now stands.
Mr. Thomas Fitzgerald

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>